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ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Sanitary Condition of the Thorne Rural District 1944

By

J. M. TAYLOR, M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

THORNE

W. Wrigley and Son, Printers, Market Place

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To the Chairman and Members of the

Thorne Rural District Council

Gentlemen,

In Circular 49/45, dated March 19th, 1945, the Ministry of Health suggests that the Annual Report on the health of the district be again presented in a condensed form. The various tables are in the forms prescribed by the Ministry to ensure continuity of records.

The Birth Rate for 1944 is 25 per 1,000 population. The Birth Rate for England for 1944 is 17.6.

The Death Rate for 1944 is 8.46 per 1,000 population. For the same period England's Death Rate is 11·6.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 52.84 per 1,000 live births. The rate for England is 46.

There was a big fall in the number of Diphtheria cases. In 1944 there were 7 cases, compared with 75 in 1943. Similarly, there were only 9 cases of Scarlet Fever compared with 33 in 1943.

Thus, 1944 was a year of more births and fewer deaths; and Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever case-rates much less than normal. The Infantile Mortality Rate is still a little higher than that for England, but it has improved from the high rates of the past decade.

Yours obediently,

J. M. TAYLOR,

July 28th, 1945 *Medical Officer of Health*

ANNUAL REPORT on the SANITARY CONDITION of the THORNE RURAL DISTRICT for 1944

General Statistics relating to the Rural District

The Rural District comprises five civil parishes, and has an area of 38,419 acres.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population for the year 1944 is 29,520.

The total number of inhabited houses in the district at the end of 1944, according to the rate books, was 7,162.

The Rateable Value of the district is £118,710.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £468/3/10

Vital Statistics

In considering the Birth, Death and other rates which have been calculated for 1944, it must be borne in mind that:—

(1) Non-Civilian Deaths are not included.

(2) That Deaths and Births occurring amongst persons temporarily residing in this district on account of the war are included in the local figures.

Births

The estimate of population supplied by the Registrar-General for calculating the birth rate is 29,520.

The total number of births during 1944 was 738.

Of these 377 were males and 361 were females.

Legitimate births numbered 683.

Of these legitimate births 349 were males and 334 females.

Illegitimate births numbered 55, 28 being males and 27 females.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 25.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the population for England is 17·6.

The total number of stillbirths was 24.

Of these 14 were males and 10 females; all were legitimate.

The stillbirth rate for the district per 1,000 total (live and still) births is 31·5.

The stillbirth rate for the district per 1,000 population is 0·81.

Deaths

The total number of Deaths during 1944 was 250.

Of these 139 were males and 111 females.

The actual or crude death rate for the district is 8·46 per 1,000 population.

No comparability factor is issued by the Registrar-General this year.

The death rate for England is 11·6.

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year

The total number was 39.

Of these 26 were males and 13 females.

22 males and 13 females were legitimate.

4 males were illegitimate.

The death rate of infants under one year per 1,000 live births is 52·84.

The death rate for England is 46.

The death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births is 51·2.

The death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births is 72·7.

The following table gives the Infantile Death Rate for the last five years :—

1939	.....	77·4	per 1,000	live births
1940	.....	74·8	,,	,,
1941	.....	79·2	,,	,,
1942	.....	68·3	,,	,,
1943	.....	61·8	,,	,,

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 34

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 1

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 2

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years) 3

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES:

From Sepsis, none.

Other causes, one.

Causes of Death in the Thorne Rural District, as supplied by the Registrar-General for 1944

Causes of Death	M	F
All causes	139	111
Whooping Cough	1	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	8	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	4
Syphilitic Diseases	3	0
Influenza	1	0
Measles	1	0
Cancer of Buccal Cavity, Oesophagus and Uterus	1	7
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	2
Cancer of Breast	0	3
Cancer of all other sites	10	10
Diabetes	1	4
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	13	11
Heart Disease	19	16
Other Diseases of circulatory system	1	0
Bronchitis	12	4
Pneumonia	17	9
Other respiratory diseases	3	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	0
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1	2
Appendicitis	1	0
Other Digestive Diseases	6	2
Nephritis	2	3
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	0	0
Other maternal causes	0	1
Premature Birth	4	2
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases	5	4
Road Traffic Accidents	2	1
Other violent causes	10	2
All other causes	12	15

Notifiable Diseases during the Year (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	9	4
Diphtheria	7	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0
Pneumonia	11	0
Erysipelas	2	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0
Enteric Fever	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2	2

The following table gives a summary of the Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum) notified during the year, and arranged in age periods:

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Enteric Fever
Age Periods						
0	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	1	—	—	—	—
3	3	1	—	—	—	—
4	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	4	2	2	—	—	—
10	—	2	1	—	1	—
15	—	1	1	—	—	—
25	1	—	3	1	1	—
35	—	—	1	1	—	—
45	—	—	2	—	—	—
65	—	—	1	—	—	—
And upwards						
	9	7	11	2	2	0

Diphtheria

The 7 cases were distributed amongst the parishes as follows:—

	No. of Cases
Thorne	4
Hatfield	3

Six of these cases were removed to hospital for treatment.

The Diphtheria case rate for the district works out at 0·23 per 1,000 population, whereas the rate for England is 0·58.

The Scarlet Fever case rate for the district is 0·3 per 1,000 population. The rate for England is 2·4.

Measles and Whooping Cough

Under provisional regulations which came into force on October 23rd, 1939, Measles and Whooping Cough became notifiable diseases. There were 157 notifications of measles, and 54 of Whooping Cough.

Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917

No vaccinations under these regulations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Tuberculosis

The following table gives a summary of the cases notified during the year, also of the deaths, arranged in age periods:—

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Age Periods	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
5	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1
15	7	3	3	0	1	2	2	1
25	3	3	1	1	0	3	0	0
35	5	2	1	0	3	1	1	0
45	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
55	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0
And upwards 65	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	18	10	7	4	9	6	3	4

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

One case was notified, and the recovery was complete.

School Closures

There were no school closures during the year.

Water Supply

A bacteriological examination of the water supplied by the Thorne and District Water Company, in August 1944, gave results as follows:—

Bacteriological Analysis.—" Presumptive Bacillus Coli: None in 100 ml. of water. The examination shows that this water is satisfactory according to the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health."

Sewerage

No extension to the Council's sewers was made during 1944.

Camping Sites

One licence is in operation under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Smoke Abatement

Eleven observations of thirty minutes were made but no unsatisfactory conditions were found.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Fourteen houses were found to be infested with Bed Bugs. All were treated effectively with insecticides.

Sanitary Inspectors' Report

Mr. B. Woodley and Mr. Wm. Bell report as follows:

Dairies and Cowsheds, etc.

173 Wholesale Traders on the Register.
57 Retail Traders on the Register.
All Cowsheds are inspected twice a year under Articles 1 and 25 Milk and Dairies Order 1926.

Shops Act 1934

10 Shops inspected.

Common Lodging Houses

3 on Register.
All kept in satisfactory condition

Canal Boats

188 on Register.
1 Inspected.
180 Boats in use.

Factories Act 1937

71 Factories in district. All inspected.

House Scavenging

This is done by contract in the parishes of Thorne, Stainforth and Hatfield. It has been done satisfactorily, in spite of labour and transport difficulties.

Closet Accommodation in the District

No. of Box Closets, 455.
No. of Privies with Covered Middens, 979
No. of Water Closets, 5,273.
There were no conversions during the year.

Bakehouses

9 Bakehouses on the Register.
All inspected during the year.

Slaughter Houses

There are no licensed slaughter houses at present.

Nuisances

Total number of Inspections during 1944, 96.
Total number of Nuisances during 1944, 83.
Total number of Nuisances abated during 1944, 77.

Meat Inspection

The slaughtering of animals was prohibited as from 15th January 1940, and only emergency slaughtered animals have been inspected after that date.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There is one privately owned open-air swimming pool in Hatfield parish.

HOUSING

Number of New Houses erected during 1944

1	State Aided	4
	(a) by the Local Authority	4
	(b) by Private Enterprise	none
	Public Utility Societies, etc.	
2	Without State Aid	none

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:

1	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	43
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	45
2	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil

3 Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation

Houses	nil
Caravans	nil

4 Number of dwelling-houses exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation nil

2. *Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 24

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :*

(a)—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 19

2 Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners 17

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners nil

(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied . 8

2 Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners 6

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners . nil

(c)—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:

1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. nil

2 Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. nil

(d)—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

1 Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made nil

2 Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit . . nil

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :*

(a)—1 Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year . 10

2 Number of families dwelling therein 14

3 Number of persons dwelling therein 57

(b)—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 5

(c)—1 Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ..... nil

2 Number of persons concerned in such cases 23

(d)—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... . nil